

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

**Please replace the previous Abstract with the following redlined Abstract:**

~~It is an object of the~~ The present invention is to provide a method and an  
apparatus for discriminating the type of an optical recording medium and the number of  
recording layers in the medium. ~~and a method for discriminating an optical recording medium~~  
~~which can quickly discriminate the kind of an optical recording medium.~~ The apparatus for  
~~discriminating an optical recording medium according to the present invention includes a first~~  
electrode and a second electrode placed in the vicinity of a light transmission layer of the  
recording medium, an alternating current signal generation circuit for applying an alternating  
current A to the first electrode, a detection circuit for detecting the level of an alternating current  
B appearing at the second electrode, and a control circuit for controlling the operations of the  
alternating current signal generation circuit and the detection circuit, and a table provided in the  
control circuit.

~~According to the present invention, in the case where two or more kinds of optical~~  
~~recording media in which the layer configuration and materials of layers between an incidence~~  
~~plane of a laser beam and a conductive layer formed on a substrate are different are marketed~~  
~~concurrently, it is possible to quickly discriminate each kind of optical recording media.~~